



Illinois Department of Public Aid

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PROVIDER NOTICE

TO: Providers of Long Term Care

RE: Bed Reserve Policy Clarification

Effective July 1, 2003, the Department no longer reimburses nursing facilities for holding a bed while a resident is temporarily out of the facility for a hospitalization. The Nursing Home Care Act continues to require that facilities hold a bed for up to ten days per hospitalization.

As stated in a Long Term Care Provider Handbook update dated July 31, 2003, the Department will continue to reimburse for bed reserve while an individual is out of the facility for a therapeutic home visit if the facility has an occupancy level of at least 93%. Maximum reimbursable days for a therapeutic home visit continue as seven consecutive or ten non-consecutive days per billing month.

No charges for any part of a bed hold period will be adjusted against the resident's income or applied when determining if spenddown is met by the Department of Human Services local office caseworker.

Facilities that hold a bed are still required to complete a Form DPA 2234, Bed Reserve/Temporary Absence Form, using the appropriate code listed in the provider handbook.

If you have any questions concerning this policy, contact the Bureau of Long Term Care at (217) 524-7244.

Anne Marie Murphy, Administrator
Division of Medical Programs